Cinema Studies at Rutgers University

CINEMA STUDIES is an interdisciplinary program dedicated to the promotion of visual literacy and cross-cultural exploration, through the focused study of film in its various historical and aesthetic contexts. At the undergraduate level, we offer a MAJOR as well as a MINOR.

Cinema Studies faculty teach a rich variety of courses, engaging with a diverse range of topics, from pioneering filmmaking in New Jersey to the latest trends in digital moving image media; from Hollywood to Bollywood; from theories of genre to theories of gender; from French comedies to Mafia movies; from Third Cinema to global cult films and horror.

Cinema Studies courses enable students to hone their analytical, communication and writing skills, in preparation for a broad variety of professional and educational pursuits after graduation. Cinema Studies majors and minors will be especially well prepared for an ever-expanding range of twenty-first century jobs, for which visual literacy is an essential skill.

Many Cinema Studies graduates successfully pursue careers in film education, criticism, production, and distribution. While they are enrolled at Rutgers, Cinema Studies students may undertake internships on campus with the Rutgers Film Co-op/NJMAC, which presents three nationally recognized film festivals (the New Jersey Film Festival, the New Jersey International Film Festival, and the United States Super 8 Film and Digital Video Festival). They may also intern with New York City-based film production and distribution companies, or with film festivals such as the Tribeca Film Festival or the Margaret Mead Film Festival. A significant number of our students are involved in filmmaking, writing their own scripts and shooting their own films, as well as working on independent and industry films in the area. The new major also offers a track in Production and Criticism for students who are interested in combining filmmaking and film analysis.

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Cinema Studies Major Program Requirements

The interdisciplinary major in Cinema Studies consists of eleven courses, completed with a grade of C or better, and with a minimum of five courses at the 300 level or above. Majors choose one of two options: “History and Theory” or “Production and Criticism.”

All majors must complete the following core requirements:
1. Two introductory courses, Introduction to Film I, and Introduction to Film II (01:354:201 and 01:354:202). Close Readings of Cinema (01:354:210) may be substituted for either 01:354:201 or 202;
2. Three electives, from the list of “approved electives” below, or from among other courses approved by the program director;

Five additional courses are required for each option.

Options within the Major

A. “History and Theory” Option

In addition to the courses required of all majors, students pursuing this option must complete the following:

2. Two courses in Non-US Cinemas (see the Cinema Studies website for list of courses)
3. One Theory course: Seminar in Film Theory (01:354:420) OR Theories of Women in Film (01:354:385)

Students may include as electives additional courses listed as Non-US or Theory, if they are not used to fulfill core or option requirements.

B. “Production and Criticism” Option

In addition to the courses required of all majors, students pursuing this option must complete the following:

1. Two Survey courses: World Cinema I (01:354:320) and World Cinema II (01:354:321)
2. One course in Auteur and Genre Studies (see the Cinema Studies website for list of courses)
3. Two Production courses (see the Cinema Studies website for list of courses)

Students may include as electives additional production courses, or courses listed as Non-US, Auteur/Genre, or Theory, if they are not used to fulfill core or option requirements.
Cinema Studies Minor Program Requirements:

The interdisciplinary minor in Cinema Studies consists of seven courses, completed with a grade of C or better, and with a minimum of three courses at the 300 level or above. The courses must be distributed as follows: (1) three required courses, Introduction to Film I and Introduction to Film II, 01:354:201 and 202 (01:354:210 may be substituted for either 01:354:201 or 202), and Senior Seminar in Cinema Studies, 01:175:425 (01:354:420 may be substituted for 01:175:425); and (2) four elective courses (see Cinema Studies website for courses).

Students pursuing a minor in cinema studies must select five courses for the minor that are outside their major. Exception: English majors who pursue a cinema studies minor may include more than two 01:354 courses in their minor program, but only two of those may be counted toward the major.

Please note that Cinema Studies courses generally include an additional mandatory weekly meeting time for screenings, or require students to view films outside of class.

For a complete list of eligible Cinema Studies courses for the Major and Minor go to: http://www.cinemastudies.rutgers.edu
Rutgers Cinema Studies Courses for Winter and Spring 2022:

Winter 2022
Note: Check the Cinema Studies Website for course descriptions: www.cinemastudies.rutgers.edu

Cinema Studies
01:175:267:01:00119  American Film Directors (Nigrin) M-F 12/23/2021; 1/3/2022 - 1/14/2022 9:00AM-11:55AM and by arrangement***Online

Spring 2022
Note: Check the Cinema Studies Website for course descriptions: www.cinemastudies.rutgers.edu

Cinema Studies
01:175:202:01:07355 Introduction to Film II (Fresko)  MW5; T7,8
01:175:316:01:07356 American Cinema II (Williamson)  W2,3 and by arrangement***
01:175:321:01:07357 World Cinema II (Martin-Marquez)  MTh2; W6,7
01:175:349:90:07358 Contemporary German and European Cinema (Karl)  T4 and by arrangement***Online
01:175:350:01:07361 Major Filmmakers (Nigrin)  TTh6; Th7
01:175:377:01:06309 Tpcs In World Cinema: Film & Lit. in South Asia (Sen)  MTh2 and by arrangement***
01:175:377:02:06398 Tpcs In World Cinema: American Animation (Williamson)  M2,3; T1,2
01:175:425:01:07363 Senior Seminar in Cinema Studies* (Flitterman-Lewis)  Th3,4; Th7,8
*Note: This course is open to Cinema Studies Seniors only. Special Permission Required—Email nina.echeverria@rutgers.edu

English-Creative Writing
01:351:220:01:07883 Writing for Experimental Film (Nigrin)**  F 2,3
Special Permission Required—Email nigrin@sas.rutgers.edu
01:351:309:02:07897 Digital Storytelling (Pearlstein)  Th 4,5
01:351:309:03:07898 Digital Storytelling (Warren)  T 2,3
01:351:314:01:07899 Documentary Filmmaking For Writers (Hulme)  Th 6,7

English – Film Studies
01:354:385:01:07905 Theories Women & Film (Flitterman-Lewis)  TTh5 and by arrangement***